## A RESOLUTION to honor the Claiborne County Farmers Cooperative upon their 50th anniversary.

WHEREAS, in 1945, the Claiborne County Farmers Cooperative opened its doors in the R. O. Giles Building in New Tazewell, featuring a basement for storage, a tiny showroom on the first floor and apartments on the second floor; that first year the cooperative sold \$15,500 worth of merchandise, specializing in fertilizer, cottonseed meal, seed, fencing supplies, hams and eggs; and

WHEREAS, half a century later, the Claiborne Farmers Co-op is an undisputed success with sales of more than \$6.4 million, offering hundreds of quality products and services at its state-of-the-art Third and Knox location and at its branch locations in Speedwell and LaFollette; and

WHEREAS, in a nation where less than two percent of businesses reach the 50-year mark, the Claiborne Farmers Co-op is proudly celebrating its golden anniversary and looking forward to many more successful years to come; and

WHEREAS, at the Co-op's recent celebration, the president of Tennessee Farmers

Cooperative commented that the business and its "dedicated directors and qualified, competent managers" have "demonstrated a progressive attitude and philosophy that has influenced how others operate and do business"; and

WHEREAS, incorporating directors Clifford S. Lambert, S. R. Treece, B. M. Richardson, Loyd Muncy, O. G. Moyers, B. C. Fugate, M. G. Walker, W. A. Overton, E. H. Vannoy, T. C. Mountain, J. H. Riley and manager, Charles W. Davis, provided a strong foundation for the growth and prosperity of this lucrative business; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, the Co-op and its customers have been fortunate to have "strong leadership from qualified boards and managers", including current board president, Mark Thompson, and manager, Frank Brooks; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate as elected representatives of the state of Tennessee that we honor the Claiborne Farmers Co-op, congratulate them on 50 years of unparalleled service to the community, and celebrate with them this very special golden anniversary; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby congratulate and commend the Claiborne County Farmers Cooperative upon the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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